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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Leushner et al.

Serial No.: 09/802,110

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For: Method, Composition and Kit for Detection of Microorganisms and Bidirectional Sequencing of Nucleic Acid Polymers

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Preliminary to the examination of the above-captioned application, please make the following amendments:

In the specification:

Page 1, please amend the first paragraph to read as follows:

AS
This application is a continuation of US Patent Application No. 09/311,260, filed May 13, 1999, now US Patent No 6,214,555, which is a continuation-in-part of US Patent Applications Nos. 09/009,483 filed January 20, 1998, now US Patent No. 6,083,699; 08/640,672 filed May 1, 1996, now US Patent No. 5,789,168; 08/684,498 filed July 19, 1996, now US Patent No. 5,830,657; and 08/807,138 filed February 27, 1997, now US Patent No. 5,888,736 and of International Patent Application NO. PCT/US97/07134 filed April 29, 1997 designating the United States, and published as International Publication No. WO97/41259 on November 6, 1997, all of which are incorporated herein by reference.

I hereby certify that this paper and any attachments named herein are being deposited with the US Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on _____ October 26, 2001.

Marina T. Larson
Marina T. Larson, PTO Reg. No. 32,038

October 26, 2001
Date of Signature